

What is claimed is:

1. A method of manufacturing an optical device,  
comprising:

5           placing an inspection gauge on a main surface of  
said optical device, said inspection gauge being provided with  
a density pattern formed on a transparent sheet or film; and  
            comparing optical unevenness of said optical  
device with said density pattern of said inspection gauge in  
10 light of a density degree to determine whether said optical  
unevenness is lighter or darker in density than or equal to  
said density pattern of said inspection gauge.

2. A method of manufacturing an optical device  
15 according to Claim 1, wherein said optical device projects  
light from said main surface when said optical device is  
enabled.

3. A method of manufacturing an optical device  
20 according to Claim 1, wherein said inspection gauge is placed  
on said main surface of said optical device in order for said  
density pattern to be next to said optical unevenness.

4. A method of manufacturing an optical device  
25 according to Claim 1, wherein said inspection gauge is placed  
on said main surface of said optical device in order for said

density pattern to cover said optical unevenness.

5        5. A method of manufacturing an optical device  
according to Claim 1, wherein said inspection gauge includes a  
plurality of different degree of density patterns.

10       6. A method of manufacturing an optical device  
according to Claim 5, wherein said different degree of density  
patterns are disposed in order of density degrees.

15       7. A method of manufacturing an optical device  
according to Claim 6, wherein said different degree of density  
patterns are applied in said order of density degrees to said  
optical unevenness for comparison with said optical  
unevenness or for inspection as to whether a difference  
between said different degree of density patterns and said  
optical unevenness is visible or not.

20       8. A method of manufacturing an optical device  
according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of said density  
patterns is made of dots provided on said sheet or film and  
said density degree is expressed by a rate of dots occupied per  
unit area.

25       9. A method of manufacturing an optical device  
according to Claim 8, wherein said dots are discrete circles or

rectangles which are uniformly dispersed.

10. A method of manufacturing an optical device according to Claim 8, wherein said dots are of a predetermined size.

11. A method of manufacturing an optical device according to Claim 8, wherein said dots are less than or equal to  $40\ \mu\text{m}$  in size.

12. A method of manufacturing an optical device according to Claim 8, wherein said inspection gauge includes density patterns with different dot occupied rates and said dot occupied rates range from 3% through 45%.

13. A method of manufacturing an optical device according to Claim 12, wherein said density patterns of said inspection gauge include low density levels each defined by a discretely additional and predetermined dot occupied rate ranging from 1% to 3% and high density levels each defined by a discrete additional dot occupied rate of 5%.

14. A method of manufacturing an optical device according to Claim 1, wherein said optical device is a display panel.

15. A method of manufacturing an optical device according to Claim 1, wherein said optical device is an illumination apparatus.

5                    16. An inspection gauge to assess optical unevenness on a main surface of an optical device, comprising:  
a transparent base sheet or film; and  
a density pattern provided on said base sheet or film,

10                   wherein said density pattern is made of a set of dots which are less than or equal to  $40\mu\text{m}$  in size.

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